

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. Selectmen present were: Michael Woodworth, Rosanne Gilbert, and Wes Moore. Others present were: Fran Lane, Bill Dawson, Sue McKinnon and Bill Davis.

Sue McKinnon and the Selectmen discussed a policy change with regard to a personnel issue.

Wes explained to Attorney Fran Lane that the Selectmen entered into a "gentlemen's agreement" with Light Tower to allow Light Tower to deal directly with the Stratham Circle Nursery to provide landscaping at the cell tower location. This was approved verbally last week by all of the Selectmen. Wes stressed that this agreement in no way voids or changes any other agreement between the Town and Light Tower. The Town still requires a signed copy of the Amendment on the Development Agreement regarding outstanding issues on the original agreement.

The Selectmen had asked Fran to complete a final review of the renewal Comcast Cable contract before they sign it. Fran's review brought to light several changes to the contract which have not been discussed with or approved by the Town. Wes will contact Jay Somers of Comcast to discuss this matter. The renewal contract will not be signed until these issues have been resolved.

Bill Dawson met with the Selectmen for an update on the Sign Ordinance. Wes advised Bill that he, James McIlroy, Michael Woodworth, Reuben Hull, and Clay Mitchell spent considerable time researching the Sign Ordinance and that it does not address temporary signs. The State of New Hampshire has jurisdiction over signs placed on their property and will only remove signs if they are an obstruction. The Board of Selectmen is not interested in drafting another ordinance addressing temporary signs as Bill is the only person complaining at this time.

They will re-visit the issue if Bill brings a group of people who are looking for changes in the Sign Ordinance to a Selectmen's Meeting. There could be a compromise where temporary signs are not prohibited entirely, but only allowed during certain days and hours. Bill does not agree with a compromise and feels all temporary signs should not be allowed. He feels the signs change the character of Newfields and makes it less attractive.

Bill said that he is unhappy with the length of time from his original complaint to the time he received an answer from the Selectmen. The Selectmen worked diligently to find answer, but had other matters that also required their attention.

Bill then spoke about an "Open House" sign that had been placed in the roadway which obstructed traffic. The Selectmen will speak to the Police Chief and Road Agent about removing a sign if it is located in the roadway. Bill was satisfied with that.

Correspondence to Citizens Bank was signed by the Selectmen.

Ray Konisky was re-appointed to the Conservation Commission. His term will expire in March of 2011.

Two residents complained of damage to their mailboxes. The Selectmen signed a letter to be sent to those residents.

A letter to Dennis Dobe, Principal of the Newfields Elementary School was signed.

At 7:37pm the meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3II. The meeting returned to a public session at 7:42pm.

The Selectmen confirmed that the deductible on the health insurance for full-time Town employees will be reimbursed if there is a need for the insurance to be used.

Rosanne advised that Melanson Heath and Company agreed to reduce their price for the 2007 audit by \$500. The Selectmen are still soliciting bids and interviewing prospective auditing firms.

The Conservation Commission is unhappy about the additional \$2,000. charged to them on the cost for 2006 annual audit. (They have already been charged and paid \$2,000. for one special audit.) Two special audits were required because of grants received for the purchase of conservation land. Each special audit cost the Town \$2,000. The Conservation Commission has asked that the additional \$2,000. be paid out of the general fund as their budget is only \$2,000. and they are not receiving any monies from Current Use Change Tax. After much discussion (including the fact that the Town's longtime auditor resigned and that the audit fees are doubling or tripling), it was determined that the Town does not have the funds to absorb this cost and will look to the Conservation Commission for payment. Wes will speak with Alison Watts, Chairman of the Conservation Commission about the Selectmen's decision. Nancy Spencer was asked to review the various department budgets to locate any extra funds that could be used to pay the additional costs for the 2007 annual audit.

Wes made a motion to appoint Rosanne Gilbert as the Selectmen's Representative to the Conservation Commission. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The Town received another quote for automatic backups of the computer system. It seems high and Rosanne advises that she is still receiving bids on this item.

The pricing to add the Human Resource Module to the Town's software system was too pricy and the Town will find another way to track the information.

Rosanne asked the other Selectmen if payroll could be started on Friday instead of being started and completed on Tuesday. Payroll and Accounts Payable are normally completed every other Monday, but both Nancy and Sue will be out of the office. The Selectmen have no objection to starting payroll on Friday. The Library will send in their hours as normal and Rosanne will ask the Police Department to submit their hours early. It was then decided to complete the payroll process in it's entirety on Friday. Any changes in hours for the police department will be reflected on the next payroll. Processing payroll on Friday will eliminate any possible penalties to the Town for not processing payroll on time.

The Selectmen advised that Maureen Smith will be paid her normal salary as Administrative Clerk for the Police Department while she takes the Selectmen Meeting Minutes on a temporary basis.

Dennis Dobe of the Newfields Elementary School offered a couple of televisions and stands to the Town Hall. The Town Office will advise Dennis if they wish to accept his offer.

Dragon Mosquito left the following public notice for the Town:

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS

Mosquito Control

The Mosquito Control program begins April 14, 2008 in the Town of Newfields. Crews will be checking swamps, woodland pools, ditches, salt marshes, storm drains and other shallow, stagnant water for mosquito larvae. When mosquitoes are found, the following insecticides may be used: VectoBac (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*), Altosid (methoprene), Agnique MMF (poly-isooctadecyl-hydroxyl), Mosquito Larvicide GB-1111 (aliphatic petroleum hydrocarbons), Bonide Mosquito Larvicide (mineral oil) or BVA 2 Mosquito Larvicide Oil (highly refined petroleum distillate).

A truck mounted sprayer will disperse Anvil 10+10 (sumithrin) along roadways. Road spraying may begin in early June and end in October. It is not possible to predict the schedule for road spraying in advance. The spray schedule is based upon mosquito surveillance data, disease testing results and weather conditions.

If Eastern Equine Encephalitis or West Nile Virus is found in or near Newfields, then emergency spraying using Anvil (sumithrin), Permanone 10 EC (permethrin), Flit 10 EC (permethrin), Cross Check Plus (bifenthrin), Suspend SC (deltamethrin) or Wisdom TC (bifenthrin) may be done at the elementary school and athletic fields. It is not possible to predict if emergency spraying will be necessary. Further communication will be given if emergency spraying is going to occur.

Residents who do not want their property treated must contact Dragon Mosquito Control in writing at P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Otherwise, control measures may be done on your property if needed. Residents may call 964-8400 for more information on spray dates, location, materials used, precautions or other concerns.

Michael would like to commend the Celebration Committee for organizing the Senior Dinner. A special thank to Amy Sununu and Elizabeth Hackett-Kegode for their hard work to make this a special event. Dennis Dobe, Mrs. Reagan, and Mrs. Dupont of the Newfields Elementary School attended the

luncheon on their own time along with the fifth grade class. Their presentation and help were enjoyed and appreciated.

The Library Quarterly Expense/Payment for the first quarter of 2008 was reviewed. The Library overspent the quarter by \$33.30 and this amount will be deducted from the second quarter.

The wooden benches currently stored on the stage at the Town Hall are available to the residents of the Town on a first come, first serve basis. There are three benches that will require small repairs and two benches that will require more repairs. Please contact the Town Office to view the benches.

Dave Garvey of Long Bow Realty Trust left a message for Wes Moore asking for a letter from the Board of Selectmen giving permission to him to cut trees and brush on town owned land located on Route 108. This information will be forwarded to the Town Planner for a determination of which department should handle this request and if permission should be granted.

Wes made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 25, 2008 meeting. Rosanne seconded the meeting and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant